

**BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST
GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT**

**LITTLE GREYS RIVER
2016 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

These Annual Operating Instructions are made part of your term grazing permit consistent with Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). It references the meeting held on April 9th. Situations may develop during the grazing season which may require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, prior approval must be given before initiating any changes or deviating from these instructions.

Only livestock branded according to the Certificate of Brand Registrations provided to the Forest Service will be allowed to graze on the allotment. Confirmation of payment by the Forest Service must be received before livestock will be allowed to graze on National Forest lands. Joe Nield of D Milliron Cattle will continue to be the point of contact for grazing on the allotment.

Table 1.0 Little Greys River Allotment – Permitted/Authorized Grazing Numbers, Kind, Class, & Season of Use

Permittee		Dale & Janelle Clark	D Milliron Cattle Co	Tobe & Cindell West Family Trust
Kind		Cattle	Cattle	Cattle
Permitted	Class	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf
	Numbers	101	284	175
	Season of Use	June 15-Oct 7	June 15-Oct 7	June 15-Oct 7
Authorized	Class	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf
	Numbers	101	284	175
	Season of Use	June 15 - Oct 7	June 15 - Oct 7	June 20 - Oct 7
Pack & Saddle Stock		1	2	2

Table 2.0 Little Greys River Allotment - Proposed Grazing Schedule and Proper Use Guidelines¹

Unit	No. of Days	Proposed Dates	Proper Use Guidelines
Neck (Upper)	5	June 15 – June 20	≤50% of key forage species ≥ 4" RSH of graminoids along the greenline
McCain	24	June 21 – July 14	
Steer Creek	24	July 15 – Aug 8	
Stewart Creek	24	Aug 9 – Sept. 1	
Blind Trail	24	Sept 2 – Sept 25	
River Basin	11	Sep 26 – Oct 5	
Neck (Lower)	5	Oct 6 – Oct 10	

¹Dates are estimates and may vary based upon range readiness, drought, proper use criteria being reach prior to the proposed move date, and/or other factors. Utilization will be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas most preferred by livestock, are typically grazed first, and receive the most concentrated use. Key areas will be coordinated with permittees.

An allotment map is enclosed; this map shows the allotment boundary, unit boundaries, scheduled move dates and other items of interest. Please review and follow it. This map will continue to be updated as necessary at future annual permittee meetings. *Range readiness will be verified by Forest Service Personnel prior to turning out any livestock on the proposed on date*

Notify us 3-5 days in advance as to when you plan to put your cattle on the allotment.

You are authorized to vary the number of days between unit moves by three days either way. If the need arises to vary the number of days by more than this prior, approval must first be received.

Proper Use Criteria: Proper utilization is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. A 4" to 6" stubble height of riparian species (i.e. sedges) shall be left along the greenline (i.e. stream corridors and wet meadows). Any key area reaching proper utilization means it is time to move to the next scheduled unit to be grazed or to come home.

You are responsible for proper utilization of forage by your cattle. If inspections reveal areas of over utilization or riparian damage, corrective action will be expected (which may mean taking your cattle home early) and action may be taken against your permit.

Equal utilization of the range is the objective. Cattle need to be properly distributed. This requires riding and salting be properly conducted throughout the entire grazing season. Rotate your salting areas during the grazing season and from year to year. Place your salt in good forage producing areas where the cattle do not go by preference. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, established trails, or in open meadows. Moving cattle between units should take no more than three to five days. Please plan accordingly.

Every effort must be taken to completely remove cattle off the National Forest by the scheduled off date. For example, if it requires three days of riding to gather your cattle, then you should start riding three days prior to your scheduled off date.

Keep camps clean at all times. Pack out all garbage off of the National Forest; this includes any garbage that may have been left from previous years. All camps are to be located away from trails, lakes, and other high use recreational area. You are also encouraged to start following Order Number 04-00-104 as it relates to your management of livestock on this allotment (see attached order). While not currently a requirement within the area you are permitted to graze, it is the intent of the Bridger-Teton National Forest to implement this order forest-wide over the next several years.

Maintenance of all your improvements listed in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit will be completed at least one week prior to the proposed on date. This allows time for the inspection of your improvements and any potential concerns to be addressed before your livestock enter the allotment. *If your maintenance responsibilities have not been completed to the standards listed in your permit, livestock will not be allowed to enter National Forest lands. Should this become an issue, group maintenance responsibilities will be assigned out on an individual basis.* Other items specifically discussed included the following:

- Forks Division Fence (#3028): Permittees reported heavy maintenance of this fence was completed last year. F.S. personnel will inspect areas maintained to ensure maintenance was completed according to F.S. specs.
- Round Up/Bull Hollow (#3033): 2015 AOI directed heavy maintenance of this fence to be constructed prior to turn on in 2015. To date, this maintenance has yet to be completed. Permittees are instructed at the earliest opportunity to complete this maintenance. Maintenance of this fence will be completed prior to turn on in 2017. Contact Brad when maintenance of this fence is completed so that he can ensure maintenance has occurred according to F.S. specifications.
- Bull Hollow (#3139) and McCain Creek Water Developments: F.S. will provide the material necessary for heavy maintenance of these water developments. Permittees will complete the heavy maintenance prior to turn on in 2017 barring any unforeseen

circumstances. Contact Brad prior to starting heavy maintenance of this project so that he can ensure maintenance occurs according to F.S. specifications.

- Historic Salting Areas: Permittees requested the continued use of historic salting areas. This request is approved for 2016. This topic will be revisited at the 2017 annual permittee meeting.

Please let Brad know of any new noxious weed infestations so we can keep them from becoming established. Spotted Knapweed, Musk Thistle, Canada Thistle, Hound's Tongue, Dalmatian Toadflax and Leafy Spurge are weeds of concern on this allotment. As a reminder certified weed-free hay, cubes, and straw are required on the Forest.

Complete the actual use report and return it to the Greys River Ranger District by December 31st. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Brad @ 307-886-5331. Thanks for your cooperation in managing this allotment.

Richard Raine
District Ranger

4-25-16
Date

2016 ACTUAL USE RECORD
BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST
GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

Forest Little Greys C&H Allotment	
Permittee: Dale & Janelle Clark	
Authorized Season of Use: 6/15 – 10/7	Authorized Numbers: 101 Cattle (cow/calf)

Planned Use				Actual Use						
<i>Unit</i>	<i>Days Planned</i>	<i>Enter Date</i>	<i>Leave Date</i>	<i>Numbers</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Days Used</i>	<i>Enter Date</i>	<i>Leave Date</i>	<i>Losses</i>	<i>Cause</i>
Neck (upper)	5	June 15	June 20							
McCain	24	June 21	July 14							
Steer Creek	24	July 15	Aug. 8							
Stewart Creek	24	Aug 9	Sept. 1							
Blind Trail	24	Sept. 2	Sept. 25							
River Pasture	11	Sept. 26	Oct. 5							
Neck (lower)	5	Oct. 6	Oct. 10							
Total Losses										

Signature: _____
 (Dale & Janelle Clark)

Date: _____

Comments: (Included needed range improvements; improvements maintained or visited; new noxious weeds locations; and etc.)

Appendix A: Range Readiness

Livestock will not be placed on the allotment until soils are dry enough to prevent damage to soils/vegetation and when key plants are phenologically ready to be grazed. Range readiness indicators for vegetation are shown below.

Plant Type	Visual	Phenology
GRASS		
Wheatgrass spp.	8 inch plant height	Seed stalk showing
Idaho Fescue	5 inch leave length	Seed head present
Prairie Junegrass	5 inch leave length	Seed head present
Sandberg bluegrass	Plant mature	Seed head in dough stage
Pinegrass	4-6 inch leaves	
Tufted hairgrass	6+ inch height	Seed head present
Kentucky bluegrass		Seed head present
GRASSLIKE		
Nebraska sedge		Seed in late dough
FORBS		
Western Yarrow	Flower stalk showing	
Arrowleaf Balsamroot	$\frac{3}{4}$ leaf development	Blossom beginning
Geranium	4 inch leave length	Flower in bloom
SHRUBS		
Serviceberry		Blossom present
Antelope Bitterbrush		Flower bud swollen
Snowberry		7-8 bud leaves unfolded